

JOHN DEERE OTTUMWA WORKS

(Ottumwa, Iowa)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The site is located on this property next to the Des Moines River. The 25-acre site lies in the corners of four sections in Wapello County, Iowa. This includes parts of the SE 1/4, Section 25 and the NE 1/4, Section 36, T72N, R14W; and parts of the SW 1/4, Section 30 and the NW 1/4, Section 30, T72N, R13W; all in Wapello County, Iowa. The site was entered on the Registry in August 1989. The EPA placed the site on the National Priorities List (NPL) in August 1990 and it was removed in 2000. September 1989 the EPA and Deere signed an Administrative Order on Consent for a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The RI/FS report was submitted to the EPA in July 1991. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in September 1991. In 1992 Deere signed a Consent Order with EPA to implement the selected remedy from the ROD.

SITE CLASSIFICATION

In 2001 the site was reclassified as “d” Site Properly Closed Requires Continued Management.

TYPE AND QUANTITY OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

This has been the site of a farm machinery manufacturing facility since 1900, and by Deere & Company since 1911. The site includes three unlined landfills, which were used for waste disposal from 1938 to 1977. Hazardous material disposal included paint sludge, solvents, heat-treating cyanides, and possibly the oils used in foundry sands. It is estimated approximately 850 tons of paint wastes were placed in the landfill area over the thirty-year period. These paint wastes probably contained pigment residues with zinc, lead, arsenic, mercury and chromium.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Low levels of heavy metals from site disposal activities were detected in soil, surface water and sediment at the site. Potential risks may have existed for individuals who accidentally ingested or came in direct contact with contaminated soil and surface water.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT, MONITORING OR REMEDIAL ACTION

The EPA is the lead agency for the site. The Record of Decision (ROD) required continued groundwater monitoring, site perimeter fence maintenance, and deed restrictions have been put in place. Superfund five-year reviews were conducted in 1998 and 2003, which both found the site conditions to remain protective of human health and the environment. The 1998 five-year review recommended abandonment of all but three monitoring wells and one piezometer remaining at the site and discontinued sampling. The only ongoing actions are maintaining the site perimeter fence and the deed restrictions. The IDNR will continue to coordinate with the EPA to insure proper management of the site.

The third Superfund five-year review was completed by EPA in March of 2008. The site was found to remain protective of human health and the environment.

FIGURE 2, SITE MAP
JOHN DEERE-OTTUMWA WORKS, OTTUMWA, IOWA

